INTERNATIC AL SEARCH REPORT

Application No tu1/US 00/20685

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 G06F17/30 G06F17/60 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G06F Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. LOSEE R M: "MINIMIZING INFORMATION 1,2,5-7,X 12,13, OVERLOAD: THE RANKING OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES" 15.18 JOURNAL OF INFORMATION SCIENCE, XX, XX, vol. 15, 1989, pages 179-189, XP000775831 ISSN: 1352-7460 page 181, left-hand column, line 39 - line 47 4,8-11, Y 16,17 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means in the art. "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 22 September 2003 29/09/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016

Ströbeck, A.

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